



Volume 25 Issue 10
October 2017

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THE KEIKI



Important Notice

**Picnic October 21st,
Next Saturday *See page
16-17***

Auction November 18th

**Christmas Party
December 9th**

**Next Regular Member's Meeting January 20—we will have Peter Linn As
our guest speaker**

***Don't forgot to read the Keiki carefully as Professor Rundell is
going to give us a test on items in the Keiki at the picnic!!!!***

OFFICERS

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| <u>President</u> | Jeff Rundell |
| <u>1st Vice President & Past President</u> | Geary Harris |
| <u>2nd Vice President</u> | Steve Mattana |
| <u>Treasurer</u> | Helen Battistrada |
| <u>Executive Secretary</u> | Pat Baig |
| <u>Recording Secretary</u> | Matt Riesz |
| (not an elected position) | |

COMMITTEES

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <u>Bulletin (The Keiki)</u> | Ken & Delia Dunn |
| <u>Mailing the Keiki</u> | Tim Smith |
| <u>Historian</u> | Mary Lou Mattana |
| <u>Refreshments</u> | Mary Lou Mattana |
| <u>Librarian</u> | Celeste Ogden |
| <u>Membership</u> | Linda Condon & Arlene Appelbaum |
| <u>Programs</u> | Steve Mattana |
| <u>Publicity</u> | Julie Smolka |
| <u>Refreshment Reminders</u> | Mary Lou Mattana |
| <u>Show Table Report</u> | Matt Riesz |
| <u>Trips</u> | Sonia Terrelonge & Laurie Ciannamea |
| <u>Webmaster</u> | Bob East |

(Website set up by Ken Dunn)

SPECIAL EVENTS:
PICNIC CHAIRMAN
MARITA REISZ

REFRESHMENT REMINDER

By Mary Lou Mattana

FOOD:

Member Picnic this month



See the food list on Page 17 for the Member Picnic

BEVERAGES

Bring your own beverage that you want to drink at the picnic. See page 17 for your food contribution.



**Treasurer's Report
By Helen Battistrada**

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Beginning Balance | |
| 7/12/17 : | \$8,757.63 |
| Total Receipts | \$ 190.00 |
| Disbursements: | <u>\$ 338.02</u> |
| Ending Balance | |
| 8/19/17: | <u>\$8,609.61</u> |

Announcement



Our congratulations go to our amazing speaker segment writer, Kara Warnock, on her marriage this month. Her new name is Kara Ramsey !





The President's Message

Welcome to fall in Florida and if you are expecting frost on the **pumpkin** it's more likely to be grey mold given the wet weather we've had. I've been moving racks of orchids in and out of the rain storms in an attempt to flush some of the mineral crust off my plants. I was also aghast the other day when I found a huge and invasive Cuban tree frog in my greenhouse. This humongous, suction footed import actually eats my little green tree frogs so he had to go. Speaking of eating, which is one of my favorite pastimes, we have a couple events coming up which everyone looks forward to.

The storm has passed and we all can take a breath and think about its consequences and how we can prepare when (not if) it occurs again. The speaker we were supposed to have, Dr. Thomas, lost power for several days at his house, just as I did. We will try to get him to speak next spring. Meanwhile we have a lot to do in preparing for our auction in November and our show in April.

But first it's **picnic time!** Our annual picnic at beautiful Crews Lake Park is coming up in October. We had a great time with a great group last year. We need a few more helpers and dishes to complete the picture. There will be a show table at our upcoming picnic along with a raffle so make sure we know you are going to attend and bring that special dish. See you at Crews Lake.

I contacted Buffet City to reserve our Christmas party date, December 9. We will be collecting gifts for "Toys for Tots" and looking forward to those Christmas cookies everyone brings.

Of course my major concern is our upcoming Auc-

tion on November 18. If you know anyone outside our club, including professional growers, that might be willing to contribute plants, please encourage them.

I've been doing a little hiking lately so I want to put in a word about our native orchids. I noticed a couple of my little Greenfly orchids (*Epidendrum magnoliae*) are in bloom. As an orchid grower I feel a responsibility to help preserve native orchids so if you are out in the wilds of the nature coast and locate these little gems, keep track of their location and health. For what they've given us it's the least we can do. One of our previous speakers runs a wonderful website that is the most authoritative source I've seen. It is

fnativeorchids.com

Occasionally these little guys may need some help, perhaps being blown out of a tree after a storm. They would be happier reattached to their home than attacked by a hoard of ants on the ground. Terrestrials would also be pleased to be spared the lawnmower or weed wacker. I would keep their locations to myself since they have a way of disappearing once the word gets out.

Enjoy life and your orchids!

JEFF



MY ORCHID ROOM For rain and winter storage

by Delia Dunn

You will recall that in 2002 we'd extended our porch and built a trellis which gave me more room for plants and we enclosed the other part of the covered porch with vinyl windows and door. When it rained heavily I could move the larger plants in there for a few days but the orchids were growing and by now I had so many plants that we had to make more room for winter storage. So in the vinyl room (*hereinafter called 'the orchid room'*) we added plastic closet



shelving 5' up and painted wooden shelving below, on concrete blocks, as well as hooks suspended from the ceiling on wood strips also suspended from the ceiling! This was to get the plants off the floor and give us more room to move around.

In the winter I have a space heater and a thermostat hanging on the wall which I set at 60 deg. Occasionally I'll mist everything with the hose but it gets everything really wet and I can't tell if it helps anything; I find so many dried up leaves that fall all winter long, mainly from Dendrobi-

ums that tend to lose their leaves anyway. I place large, long, plastic trays about 5' long on the floor, full of water for evaporation (although I've never seen any evaporate); it stays clean because it's not under the sun, so I use it for watering



plants if necessary like my bare roots, or small plants that have dried out. The room proved successful as a storage place in the winter for several years but I realized that while other people had Cattleyas blooming all year the majority of mine took a long time to get adjusted once I moved them out of the room in March. Cattleya leaves were burning from exposure to too much sunlight too suddenly and it made the leaves unattractive.



This is a plant taken into the orchid room during summer rains in July.

I thought my Cattleyas were simply not strong enough throughout the winter because they had the roof overhead and needed much more light and fertilizer. I may have remedied that through the years by making sure they are placed on the south end of the room (but then there is no room for anything else at that end). For the past few years I have had Cattleyas bloom in the room so that light appears to be very good for them.

But I still had problems moving so many plants inside out of the rain all at one time. It wasn't until 2010 that Ken needed something to do and came up with the idea of a strong cart to transport the orchids. He built a long heavy cart made of treated wood, a wire top and bottom and wheels

so it allows us to move the plants under the roof overhang or at least to the porch, if not into the orchid room. It serves as yet another shelf to help separate the plants and they have all benefited because of the extra spacing. Obviously the extra spacing we got years ago from the shelves attached to the trellis was simply not enough these many years later. During the warm months I basically keep the heavy cart outside all the time unless it were to rain incessantly and then I move it in for a couple of days.



Here on the left is a close-up picture of the cart taken in March before it was moved out in the Spring. In Inverness it is pretty cool in the winter and taking it out from day to day doesn't work as it always would have to go back in again every night. I leave all my plants in the room all winter and you can see the light available there, although that is March and it's starting to brighten up—it's fairly dark in that room in the winter months. (Ken— I need a skylight!!)



Here you see the cart under the roof overhang—it looks very small here which is hard to understand as it actually fills up quite a large area on the patio.

We later bought some black plastic shelving and Ken has written an article on how he put them together to make carts. See page 9.



**Orchid Lovers' Club of Spring Hill
Meeting Minutes 8/19/2017**

By Matt Reisz

Jeff Rundell opened the meeting with some light-hearted (and BAD) orchid jokes, which were much appreciated.

Our photographer was taking pictures for the members' roster. At the start of the meeting, 40 people had their pictures taken and 60 had signed in. Jeff asked the others to go get their pictures taken.

Donna Goodwin was our speaker for the day, and brought a whole bunch of beautiful vandaceous orchids for sale. These were displayed on racks that Matt Riesz was kind enough to make for us, to match the others we already had which were in disrepair. Thank you, Matt!

Thanks are also extended to the Cristofalos, who are responsible for the picture taking operation. It will be so much easier to know who people are, when you have a picture!

The July meeting's minutes were approved.

Several guests, from Hudson and from Brooksville, were introduced and welcomed. We hope they enjoy our meetings and decide to become members. Two new members joined us today: Cheryl Hessler from Spring Hill and Cathy Case from Beverly Hills. Welcome, Cheryl and Cathy!

Jeff extended our thanks again to Ken and Delia Dunn for our Keiki, which is one of the finest anywhere. It was apparent that not all of us are reading the Keiki so a short quiz was presented to see who had read the Keiki. Very few people knew the answers. Maybe we all have very poor

memories (I know I do – I read it as always, and knew only one or two of the answers!). Folks, please DO read the newsletter, it's an excellent publication with good information about our club activities and valuable orchid culture information.

We have a couple of events coming: Our club picnic in October, our auction in November, the Christmas Party in December, and our annual show in the Spring. We've been searching for a picnic committee chair, and Marita Riesz has volunteered. THANKS, Marita! Marita talked for a few minutes about our needs for the picnic, and also for our annual show which is coming up in the Spring. She passed around several signup sheets for the picnic and for the show. The picnic will be held at Crew's Lake County Park, starting at 12:00 pm on October 21st. Members are welcome to bring plants for sale to the picnic.

We also need help for our Auction on November 18th. Marita passed around a signup sheet for that, too. The Auction and Show are our big fundraisers for the year, so we hope everyone will participate. Please plan to bring plants for sale at the auction – perhaps divisions you've made during the year and that are well established and labeled.

Also come and bid and buy some of these great plants. Orchid society auctions are THE BEST place to get unusual and beautiful plants at good prices. So come on down!

We are thinking about April 14th for our Show, to avoid conflicts with other clubs and activities in the area. That's also a good time for blooming plants.

Dr. Thomas will be our speaker in September. He's an expert on Phalaenopsis.

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from the prior page)

Our Christmas party is scheduled for December 9th, which is the SECOND Saturday in December.

Helen Battistrada presented our financial report:

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| Balance last month: | \$8,757.63 |
| Receipts: | 190.00 |
| Disbursements: | 338.02 |
| New balance: | \$8,609.61 |

A motion was made and seconded to approve the report and it was approved.

One of our new members, Andy, took a trip to Apopka for some orchid supplies and had some left which he kindly brought to the meeting for sale to our other members. If members would like anything special please let Jeff know and we'll put it on the list next time we do a club supply trip.

Jeff urged people to buy raffle tickets for the great raffle plants. Some people volunteered to help judge our show table, and we broke for refreshments.

After the break, Matt and Jeff discussed the beautiful plants on the show table, and Donna Goodwin gave a wonderful talk on how to grow vandas. She's an expert, and I know some of my processes will change as a result of her advice!

A note about the Minutes

The Minutes presented here have yet to be approved by the members. If you see the need for an addition, deletion or correction, please use the address below to send an e-mail to advise that a change is needed.

The approved Minutes will be included in the permanent record of the Club.

Thank you!!

kdunn004@tampabay.rr.com

CHECK IT OUT!

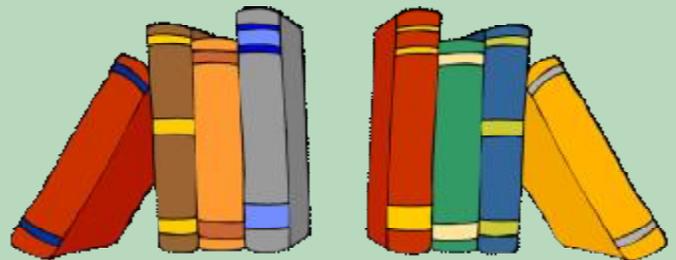
Book #200-015

Title: Orchid Fever by Eric Hansen

Journey into the obsessive, outrageous and mesmerizing world of orchids. From the jungles of Borneo, Kew Gardens, Europe, and Minnesota. How about going to Turkey for a taste of Orchid Ice cream.

You'll enjoy this read ~~~

Celeste



Keep the book for a month! Click on:

www.springhillorchidclub.com

And then click on:

Alphabetical Listing Library Books

Celeste Ogden

[OLCOSH Show Table 8-19-2017](#)

| <u>Plant Name</u> | <u>Grower</u> | <u>How Long Owned</u> | <u>Growing Orchids</u> | <u>Ribbon?</u> |
|--|---------------|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Bc. Hawaii Stars 'Paradise' Miltonia (Puna Cove 'Karen' x Brazilian Rose x Candiadal) 'Jerry's Original' | Connie Chase | 3 1/2 yrs | | |
| Epicatanthe Don Herman 'Freckles' | Julie Smolka | | | |
| Mokara Raspberry Tart | Keith Adrian | 5 yrs | | |
| Mokara Chao Phraya Boy 'Pink' | Gary Gethen | 17 yrs | | |
| Trichoglottis brachiata | Gary Gethen | 17 yrs | | |
| Epicattanthe Don Herman 'Spots' | Judy Smith | 2 yrs | | |
| Brassavola grandiflora 'A-doribil' | Judy Smith | 2 yrs | | |
| Vanda Prm NN 2B | Jeff Rundell | 4 yrs | | |
| Oncidium Midas 'Willow Pond' | Connie Chase | 1 yr | | |
| Vanda June Walcott Bingham | Matt Riesz | 8 mos | | |
| Rlc. Lawless Walkerie 'The Ultimate' AM/AOS | Matt Riesz | 1 1/2 yrs | | Y |
| Angraecum Lemforde White Beauty | Matt Riesz | 3 yrs | | |
| Rlc. Toshie Aoki | Matt Riesz | 4 yrs | | |
| Habenaria rhodocheila - pink form | Judy Smith | 7 yrs | | Y |
| Potinara Susan Fender 'Cinnamon Stick' | Matt Riesz | 3 mos | | |
| Monnierara Millenium Magic 'Witchcraft' | Keith Adrian | 3 1/2 yrs | | |
| Blc. Petite Stars | Jack Drage | 9 yrs | | |
| C. loddigesii | Julie Smolka | | | |

There were several more plants on the show table than this, but they did not have show table papers, so there's In the future, please fill out the paperwork so we can feature your well grown plants. Thank you. Matt Reisz



BUILD A VERSATILE ORCHID BENCH—written by Ken Dunn



This bench is especially useful when you are growing on a porch, patio or around the pool. Since the bench will have wheels it will be easy to move your orchids in and out of the sun, in and out of the rain and in and out of cool weather.

First, start with a 5 level 36' x 72' x 18" plastic storage shelf kit. This can be purchased at Lowes ,ACE or Home Depot for less than \$40.00.

These shelves were selected as they are plastic so water does not phase them but also the shelves are quite open so water does not collect on them.



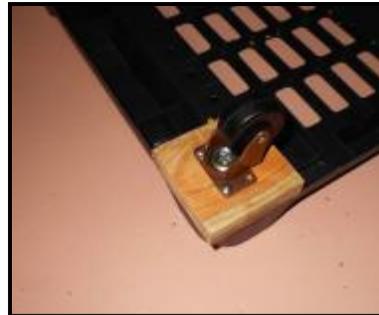
First we must open the package and select one of the 5 shelves. Lay it aside and mount a 4" x 4" x 1" treated wooden block on each bottom

corner of the shelf. This can easily be done with 3 inch exterior deck screws.



After we mount a wood block on each corner of the shelf it is time to mount a caster on each block of wood. 2" casters seem to be in order and they should be weather resistant.

The screws can be stainless #8 x 1/2".



Once all four of the casters have been attached, turn the shelf over and with the wheels on the floor, insert one of the enclosed posts in each corner. After all four posts have been inserted, add another shelf inserting a post in each corner. Presto, you are finished.



Additionally, you can add four more posts to the bench to



hold a screen over your plants to control the summer sun or in winter place a blanket over the posts on a cool night and maybe even add a light bulb for a little heat rather than taking your plants inside.

**Versatile is the word and
Orchid is the plant.**

From a recent edition of AOS Newsletter

Orchid Basics: The How and Why of Watering Dr. Ron McHatton, PhD

More orchids are killed by incorrect watering than by any other reason. There are two separate components to proper watering; when and how. The vast majority of orchids grown by hobby growers are epiphytes, growing on trees above the ground where the light is more plentiful. These plants are adapted to having their roots exposed to light and air so in addition to water, orchid roots need air. The central core of an epiphytic orchid root is covered with a spongy material called velamen designed to store water. When this spongy material remains wet too long, the central core suffocates and begins to rot. Once the roots begin to rot, the plant can no longer take up water properly and a whole host of problems begin. At worst, root rot will eventually spread causing the death of the plant (Figure 1). In other cases, the loss of roots prevents the plant from absorbing sufficient water to maintain the plant in good condition and the leaves will take on a wrinkled appearance (Figure 2). Unfortunately, the symptoms of over-watering and under-watering are superficially similar and the tendency is to increase watering rather than inspect the roots. Over-watered roots will be brown and mushy while those on under-watered plants will be white or gray and obviously dry. Let's look first at when to water.

When do I water? Orchids should be watered just as they dry out. This rule applies to all orchids with slight variations depending on whether your plant has pseudobulbs (thickened stems that are designed to store water) or not. Orchids such as cattleyas and oncidiums should be allowed to just dry completely between waterings while orchids such as Phalaenopsis and vandas that have no water storage organs should be watered just before dryness occurs. For vandas, this may mean daily watering during the warm summer months. Vandas and ascocendas that are properly watered will have actively growing root tips at all times (Figure 3). If the root tips on your plants dry up and seal over, you are not watering often enough.

There's unfortunately no magic formula; i.e., water a plant in a 6" pot every 7 days and you'll be trouble free. This is because your growing area is different from anyone else's. Humidity, air movement, potting medium (type and age) and light levels all play a role. There are several ways to determine when a potted orchid is almost dry: 1) dry pots will feel lighter when lifted; 2) clay pots feel dry; 3) a wooden stake or skewer inserted into the potting mix will come out almost dry (Figure 4). If in doubt, a finger inserted into the potting mix is perhaps the best tool to determine the moisture content of the potting mix. It will cause no harm to the plant. And remember, fresh potting mix will always dry out faster than the old medium.

How do I water? How to water is just as important to proper culture as when to water. When orchids are watered, they should be watered copiously (Figure 5). Place the plant in the sink and allow the water to run freely from the drainage holes. Do not use salt-softened water. This is your opportunity to examine how the potting mix behaves. If you cannot pour water rapidly through the pot, the potting mix is too dense and you run the risk of starving the roots for air. If you see finely divided material that looks like coffee grounds in the water coming from the drainage holes, your potting mix is breaking down. Both of these are signs it's time to repot into fresh medium. At a minimum, try to thoroughly water your plants at least once a month.

Finally, a couple of notes about mounted plants and those like vandas that are grown in baskets without additional potting medium. First, avoid dunking these plants in buckets of water. This practice very easily spreads diseases. If one plant has a disease, all those dunked in the same bucket of water will have been exposed as well. Also, two short waterings a few minutes apart are much more effective than one long watering. Once water runs off the plant, the roots will have absorbed essentially all they can at that time and excess water simply runs off to the ground. The proper technique is to water your plants, and then a few minutes later water them again, always beginning with the first plant you watered. This allows time for the roots of the last plant watered to finish absorbing water before you wet them again. Roots that are completely saturated will be a solid color while those that are not will appear mottled.

Orchids and Hurricane Irma

Mini Stories of Member's Experiences With Irma

I for one, came out of H. Irma with my green house intact including my shade house w/shade cloth, my metal shed, canvas shed and the house. None of the buildings had any significant damage. HOWEVER, ----- we had from the latest count and on short videos, 53 Sand Pine Trees met their fate. These are anywhere from 70 - 90+ feet tall. These are laying on the ground, leaning to another three or snapped in half. Branches, pine needles, and pine cones are everywhere. One tree came within 4 feet of hitting the house. AND we never lost power. There now, our higher power certainly had to be involved with this.

May this find you well.

Sincerely,

Gary Gethen & Frank Greer

We were worried about our large longleaf and slash pines that surround our house. In Sugarmill lots of the turkey oaks and sand pines were the most common victims. But let's face it, we were lucky and those TV hurricane tracking models are not that accurate. I had to remove the windows and shade cloth from my greenhouse and tie vanda baskets together . I ran refrigeration from an inverter hooked up to my cars. The fridge eventually died and a new one is supposed to arrive tomorrow. So i have 2 small chest freezers supplying ice and keeping things frozen. Our power came on at 10 pm last night. We had a niece and nephew from palm beach refugee over here but they have returned to no power. Take care.

Jeff Rundell

We prepared by buying a pork roast and cooking

it the day of the storm before the power went out so we could eat it cold for days. We had lots of tree damage with the top coming off one tree & landing right next to the bedroom window & another tall 12" diameter oak about 50' tall falling completely, very near but parallel to the house. We had a lady staying with us who had a mandatory evacuation from Crystal River and I think she thought she'd be safe at our house but she was quite shocked when she saw the mess the next day. We like most people lost power, phone and cable but we froze a couple of blocks of ice before the storm and put them in coolers for unfrozen food and after the storm a neighbor took our frozen food as they had a generator. For light we used candles and a table lamp powered by the car. The car also powered the cell phones and radio. The orchids rode out the storm in their winter quarters. We lost partial roof of our screen and now the orchids are getting burned leaves so we're having to move them around out of the direct sun. But we are thankful & our friend had no damage.

Ken & Delia Dunn

Marita and I watched Irma closely as she tore her way through the Leeward Islands and headed for South Florida at a category 5 hurricane. The updates on the storms's track looked more and more grim for us as they trended to the West. To save our orchids from the impending windstorm, we moved all of them into the Lanai. Most of them live on rolling carts, which makes moving them relatively easy. We have them set up that way to allow us to move them inside whenever cold weather threatens during the winter, and it helped us this time, too. Once everything was inside, along with all the pool furniture and anything else that could be picked up by the expected

wind and become a missile, we closed the sliding doors over the lanai and crossed our fingers. Those doors have clear vinyl in them and are not designed to resist hurricane winds, so we were very worried. But we were very fortunate that the storm followed the track it did, and decreased in intensity to a category 1 storm.

Our house and property escaped serious damage with just some branches down, and the orchids stayed safe and happy inside the lanai. We moved them back out on Tuesday after the storm passed, and they happily continued growing, rewarding us with several new inflorescences. I also took the time to treat them all with fungicide once they were back outside, to inhibit any black rot that might have taken the opportunity to develop in the dark and humidity of the closed lanai.

MATT



Looking Forward to 2018

In January, we will have Peter Linn As our guest speaker. This is a reminder to all the members of the orchid lovers of Spring Hill. To look on BIG LEAF Orchids in Texas, try to pick out a plant that you would like Peter to bring for you.

He will be talking about primary hybrid and species in the novelty arena of Phalaenopsis. These orchids are very fragrant. Peter grows extremely high quality Phals. These are plants that we cannot get here. This is a great opportunity.

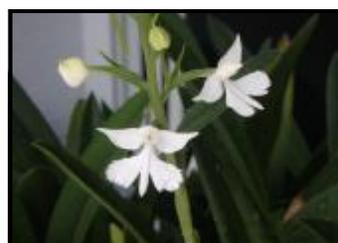
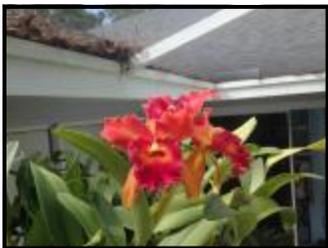
We would like to see a nice pre-order for our event in January.

If anyone has any questions or needs help with their choice of plant or plants, please feel free to contact Steve Mattana at 218-556-1895.

Or stevemattana123@gmail.com

Thank you very much and happy growing.

Steve





Speaker Segment

By Kara Warnock Ramsey

Speaker from August Meeting

Our speaker for August was Donna Goodwin from Goodwin Orchids located in Leesburg, Florida. She and her husband Duane are known for growing quality Vandaceous orchids at their nursery. They got into the orchid business about 20 years ago by inheriting and taking over some rudimentary greenhouses belonging to John, Duane's father, who had recently passed away. For those of you who do not know much about the care of Vanda orchids, Donna has a knack of explaining things that make their care sound simple and easy. Her talk was centered mostly on watering requirements, fertilizer application, and placement of Vanda orchids

.When watering a Vanda it is important to thoroughly wet the roots of the plant. You cannot over water them, however, if you give them too little water on an infrequent basis it is possible to under water them. In general, it is best to water your plants in the morning so that they have the rest of the day to dry off. Doing things this way allows you to worry less about potential fungal infections. When watering you can get the whole plant wet – leaves, flowers, and especially the roots. It is best to water the plant using a garden hose or an irrigation system. Or during the summer months allow the afternoon thunderstorms to take care of the watering. Donna does not suggest dunking your plant in a container of water to hydrate it. This could result in the roots cracking or breaking and allow for the spread of diseases between plants. During the hot summer months plants will need to be watered daily, and when temperatures cool the frequency of waterings can

be dropped down to a couple of times a week (every 2-3 days).

To fertilize the orchids at their nursery they like to use a water soluble fertilizer such as Peters 20-20-20. The 20-20-20 fertilizer is mixed up at a ratio of 2 tsp. per gallon of water during the warm months and a weaker 1tsp. per gallon solution during the cooler months (January-March). They apply the standard 20-20-20 fertilizer to their plants using a pump sprayer on a weekly basis for three out of the four weeks within the month. Once a month they fertilize their plants using a bloom booster fertilizer consisting of 10-30-20. Bloom booster fertilizers have decreased percent nitrogen and an increased percent phosphorus. They help to trigger blooming in a plant if it is nearly time, and when the plant does bloom they help to intensify the vibrancy of the flower color. Also once a month along with the bloom booster fertilizer application they use SUPERthrive at a rate of ¼ tsp. per gallon of water. For those of you not familiar with SUPERthrive it is a vitamin and hormone solution that can help with growth and improve the overall vigor of the plant. It is important to note when using fertilizer that if you do not use up all the fertilizer you have made it will only keep for about one week. After that time frame if you use it you are really just applying colored water to your plants. When fertilizing your plants it is not necessary to water them first. Simply apply your fertilizer mixture to all of your plants, wait 15 minutes or more, then go back and spray them down again.

Donna suggests waiting at least 24 hours after applying fertilizer to water your plants when temperatures are warm and to wait 24-48 hours when temperatures are cooler.

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chids require a lot of light in order to grow and bloom well. They are best suited to outdoor locations where they receive bright light, but not full sun, such as under a tree, pergola, or on a lanai. The key is to find a spot with plenty of sun and good air movement that they like. Donna has found that a southern exposure seems to be preferred. You might even consider having two locations for your Vanda – one where you grow and bloom the plant and another location where the plant can be relocated to when in bloom to enjoy the flowers. Vanda orchids do not require potting; they can be grown in teak or plastic baskets or by simply attaching with zip ties to “S” hook hangers. They should be allowed to grow wild with their thick roots extending downward. If the roots get too long to where they begin to touch the ground, or start to attach to other substrates, you can thoroughly wet the roots and coil them together like a garden hose and secure with a tie in order to elevate them off the ground. If growing outside Vandas can tolerate temperatures as low as 38F if they are provided some protection, such as being sheltered under a tree canopy. They should be brought in to a warmer location during freezing temperatures. Because Vanda orchids are grown in baskets or hangers and not potted using various mediums they are not prone to most pest problems. They are however susceptible to

W h e n
s e a r c h i n g
f o r a s p o t t o
p l a c e y o u r
V a n d a a n
o u t s i d e l o c a
t i o n i s g e n e
r a l l y b e s t .
V a n d a o r -

getting thrips, a very small, minute flying insect that feeds on plant tissues. It can be hard sometimes to detect the presence of these insects. You often notice first the tell-tale damage to the plant indicating their presence – deformed foliage and injured floral tissue (browning around the edges of the flowers) caused by their feeding activities. In their greenhouse they spray malathion insecticide on the plants during the evening hours in order to combat thrip infestations. They will occasionally secure the entire greenhouse and turn off the circulation fans to use a pyrethrin canister (like a fogger) as a general treatment for most pests. Also, within their greenhouse as a preventative measure they spray all of their plants periodically with a Phyton 27, a systemic copper based bactericide and fungicide. Donna mentioned that they can pay upwards of \$200 for a one gallon container of the product. In looking online, it looks like smaller 2oz. bottles can be purchased for a more reasonable price (around \$33 listed on Amazon).

The Goodwin's grow approximately 5,000 plants in their greenhouses. The strap leaf Vandas that they grow and sell at their nursery will bloom for their new owners at least twice a year. The Ascendas (technically classified as Vandas now) have smaller flowers and will bloom more often, up to three or four times a year. If you would like to visit their nursery they are located at 2902 South Street (SR 44) in Leesburg. If you plan on heading out there, Donna suggests giving them a call first at 352-787-9003 or 352-516-0988 just to make sure that they are home and do not have another appointment.

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## Our friend Martin Motes of Motes Orchids sent us this helpful information on treating our plants post-storm.

Post storm activity is important also. First, be prepared to quickly replace shade either on the structure itself or by jury-rigging shade cloth until the structure can be rebuilt. The plants themselves will have been severely stunned, bruised or nicked by buffeting winds. Often the plants will have been dark and wet for many, many hours. These conditions are the most highly conducive for fungal and bacterial development. While the plants are still wet they can be sprayed with a tertiary ammonia product Physan, Consan, or Greenshield (pool algicide contains the same chemical). This has the advantage of blending with the water on the plants to provide some immediate protection. Once the plants are dry again, they can be sprayed with a broad spectrum fungicide/bactericide. Cupric hydroxide (Kocide, Champion) mixed with Mancozeb (Manzate, Dithane M45) at 1 tbs per gallon of each should do a good job. Again, a spreader sticker is highly desirable here. The strategy for all the next few weeks post storm is to keep the plants as dry as possible (most will be moving toward more dormant states in September and October, in any case). Close monitoring for disease development and excising damaged tissue as disease develops are essential. This should be done with a clean instrument that is disinfected between cuts, preferably with a supersaturated solution of tri-sodium phosphate, Clorox, pool algicide or by flaming the cutting edge. Much wet weather can still be forthcoming after a hurricane and disease control and preven-

tion will be a long term task post storm. We all hope that none of us ever again need to know these things we old Florida hands have learned across the years, but hurricanes are a price of living in paradise. The wise children make preparations early for all the other storm needs; buying supplies, filling gas tanks, trimming trees, removing debris so that at the eleventh hour all efforts can be concentrated on what is truly important; protecting our orchids and other equally beloved family.

### Treating Storm Damaged Plants

Hurricane or even tropical force winds are not kind to vegetation. Orchids that have weathered the storm in our gardens are very likely to have sustained some damage. Frequently leaves or stems are broken. Even more frequently the plants have been scraped by rubbing against themselves or some object in the buffeting winds. Wind blown debris can also cut or scrape exposed plants. Careful examination of those plants which could not be brought in out of the storm will usually reveal numerous cuts, scrapes and bruises, particularly on leaf margins. Hurricane or even tropical force winds are not kind to vegetation. Orchids that have weathered the storm in our gardens are very likely to have sustained some damage. Frequently leaves or stems are broken. Even more frequently the plants have been scraped by rubbing against themselves or some object in the buffeting winds. Wind blown debris can also cut or scrape exposed plants. Careful examination of those plants which could not be brought in out of the storm will usually reveal numerous cuts, scrapes and bruises, particularly on leaf margins.

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those nicks and scratches to heal to a naturally resistant toughness. Often the weather of September and October is not kind enough (even when we have already suffered) to permit sufficient drying to cure the ravages of the storm. The persistent damp characteristic of late summer usually dictates more active intervention. Painting wounded spots with fungicide can often prevent infections. Many growers adverse to chemicals use ground cinnamon for this purpose. A bolder and surer treatment is a combination of equal parts cupric hydroxide (Kocide) and mancozeb (Manzate or Dithane M45). This should be made into a slurry and painted on wounded places.

**Never, never, apply chemicals as a dust.**

The potential to inhale pure forms of agricultural chemicals is too, too, dangerous. Indeed, it is recommended that when handling chemicals to make a slurry, a respirator or paint mask be worn to avoid inhaling the air borne particles. Rubber or vinyl gloves are advised when actually applying this mixture. Cupric hydroxide and mancozeb can also be applied as a spray at the rate of one table-spoon each per gallon of water. Spraying the entire collection will go a long way toward preventing isolated problems from becoming epidemic. If the weather is so unremittingly wet that spray cannot be applied, a quaternary ammonium product (Physon, etc. or pool algicide) can be sprayed as recommended elsewhere. Luckily when most hurricanes have struck, the end of October is just days away, bringing dry air to relieve both our plants and our rain-weary souls.



**HOPE TO SEE YOU  
AT CREWS LAKE ON  
THE 21ST**

**Be Sure and Check  
The Next Page.**

**If someone wishes to bring something else or help in any way please email Marita at:**  
[maritariesz404@gmail](mailto:maritariesz404@gmail.com)

**ORCHID LOVERS' CLUB PICNIC  
 SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2017  
 CREWS LAKE COUNTY PARK (PASCO)  
 12:00 P.M.**

SIGN-UP SHEET

**Volunteers Needed:**

| Setup – Tables/Food   | Cleanup   |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Pat Baig , Judy Smith |           |
| Laurie Ciannamea      |           |
| Server 1 -            | Server 2- |

CLUB WILL PROVIDE THE HAMBURGERS, HOT DOGS, BRATWURSTS & ITALIAN SAUSAGES & BUNS

MEMBERS WILL BRING ONE OF THE FOLLOWING – ENOUGH TO SERVE 10

|                                          |                                                          |                              |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>CONDIMENTS:</b>                       | <b>SMALL JAR OF MUSTARD, KETCHUP &amp; PICKLE RELISH</b> |                              |
|                                          | Arlene & Arty Appelbaum                                  |                              |
| <b>COLD SALADS:</b>                      |                                                          |                              |
| AMERICAN POTATO SALAD                    |                                                          |                              |
| 1                                        | Judy Smith                                               |                              |
| 2                                        | Tom Govin                                                |                              |
| MACARONI SALAD                           |                                                          |                              |
| 1                                        | Rosemary Anderson                                        |                              |
| 2                                        | Andrea & Keith Adrian                                    |                              |
| COLE SLAW                                |                                                          |                              |
| 1                                        | Lori Cleaver                                             |                              |
| 2                                        | Sonia Terrelange                                         |                              |
| FRUIT SALAD                              |                                                          |                              |
| 1                                        | Gary Gethen & Frank Greer                                |                              |
| 2                                        | Laurie Ciannamea                                         |                              |
| SLICED & CHOPPED ONIONS small containers |                                                          |                              |
| 1                                        | Julie Smolka                                             |                              |
| TOMATO SLICES                            | 1                                                        | Trudy Domann                 |
|                                          |                                                          | Dan & Debbie Grant - pickles |

## Page 2 Picnic List

|                      |   |                    |               |
|----------------------|---|--------------------|---------------|
| CHEESE SLICES        | 1 | Wendy Paracka      |               |
| DEVILED EGGS         |   |                    |               |
|                      | 1 | Pat Baig           | 24 - 1 dz     |
|                      | 2 | Matt Riesz         |               |
| DESSERTS:            |   |                    |               |
|                      | 1 | Dorothy Coe        | Bread Pudding |
|                      | 2 | Laurie Ciannamea   |               |
| CAKE                 |   |                    |               |
|                      | 1 | Pat Yacco          |               |
|                      | 2 | Celeste Ogden      |               |
| PIES                 |   |                    |               |
|                      | 1 | Lois Jensen        | Lori Cleaver  |
|                      | 2 | Pat Baig           |               |
| FRESH FRUIT          |   |                    |               |
|                      | 1 | Marita Riesz       |               |
|                      | 2 |                    |               |
| OTHER :              |   |                    |               |
|                      | 1 | Linda Drage        | Mac & Cheese  |
|                      | 2 | Andy Anderson      | Cheese cake   |
|                      | 3 | Delia Dunn         | Baked Beans   |
|                      | 4 | Jeff Rundell       |               |
| Potato Chips         |   | Bobbie LeMay       | 2 bags        |
| Dip                  |   | Wendy Paracka      |               |
| Tortilla Chips       |   | Javon Parker       |               |
| Salsa                |   | Joe Parker         |               |
| 4 + Reg. Soda        |   | Dan & Debbie Grant |               |
| 4 + Diet Soda        |   | Mary Lou Matana    |               |
| Case of bottle water |   | Gigi Shields       |               |
| 4 bags of ice        |   | Gigi Shields       |               |
| 4 bags of ice        |   |                    |               |
| 2 Folding Tables     |   |                    |               |
| Folding Table        |   | Marita Riesz       |               |
|                      |   | Wendy Paracka      |               |
| Large Cooler         |   |                    |               |